[2nd April 1955

"(b) & (c) A copy [a] of the Press note embodying the conditions for the grant of financial assistance to indigent T.B. patient from the Bhavanagar Kshayarog Fund is placed on the table of the House."

Exemption of Jaggery Co-operative Societies from sales tax

* 1809 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—"As jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies have been exempted from sales tax now, I am not putting my question, Sir."

Major and minor panchayats

* 1810 Q.—SRI A. K. SUBBIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) how many major and minor panchayats are working in this State; and

(b) how many new panchayats are proposed to be constituted?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"(a) The old classification of panchayats as 'major' and 'minor' has been replaced by Class I and Class II in accordance with section 5 of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950. On 1st January 1955 there were 294 Class I panchayats and 4,909 Class II panchayats.

"(b) It is estimated that about 600 new panchayats will be constituted by the end of March 1955."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—"Whereas the question of constituting no panchayats is engaging the attention of the Government for a long time, is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that due representation was made by the people living in Avadi that that area has not been constituted into a panchayat, even though the population in that area is more than 5,000?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"The question of Avadi Panchayat also will be considered as 600 new panchayats are proposed to be constituted."

* 1811 Q.—SRI K. MOIDU :—"I do not want to put my question."

Control of leprosy

* 1812 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the amount spent by the Government for extending the leprosy control scheme in the State in the year 1953–54;

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a Printed as Appendix I on page 1217 infra.